

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) Multicoupling device for lines, comprising especially ~~hydraulic lines, with~~ coupling units (1-4), which are provided in a number corresponding to a number of connections to be produced and which each have a plug and a socket that receives the plug, and with first and second coupling parts (7, 8), wherein the plug is fixed to one of the coupling parts and the socket of a corresponding coupling unit is fixed on the other of the coupling parts, wherein the coupling units are embodied as self-locking snap couplings, ~~whose~~ the sockets each have a locking collar (9), which can be displaced in relation to the socket, wherein the two coupling parts can be brought together and pressed apart by means of operating elements and can be fixed relative to each other in the coupling position, wherein the locking collars (9) of the corresponding coupling units (1-4) interact with a switch plate (11), which is common for all of the coupling units (1-4) and which lies between the two coupling parts (7, 8), wherein the switch plate (11) can be adjusted relative to ~~[[a]]~~ the first coupling part (8) in a closing and opening direction of the coupling units (1-4), and wherein the two coupling parts (7, 8) can be moved relative to each other by at least one operating element (10) mounted on the switch plate (11) with engagement via at least one curved engagement slot (13) and a pin (14) formed on the ~~[[other]]~~ first coupling part (7) into closed and open positions and can be mutually locked in the closed position, ~~characterized in that~~

the operating element (10) is held on the switch plate (11) so that it can rotate about an axis (12) that extends parallel to a plane of the switch plate (11); the axis (12) for receiving the operating element (10) is formed by a shaft mounted in the switch plate (11) or by two shaft stumps; the shaft (18) engages in an elongated hole (19) in a wall part (20) of ~~[[one]]~~ the second coupling part (8) in a region between the switch plate (11) and the operating elements (10); and the switch plate (11) can move independent of the locking collars (9).

2. (Currently amended) Multicoupling device according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the two coupling parts (7, 8) can be automatically locked in the closed position by additional locking elements (15).

3. (Currently amended) Multicoupling device according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the coupling parts (7, 8) and the switch plate (11) are guided so that they can move along a common guide tube (16) passing through ~~[[these]]~~ both of the parts in a center region.

4. (Currently amended) Multicoupling device according to Claim 1, wherein ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ an activation lever (21) is attached to one or to both ends of the shaft (18) or to the two shaft stumps.

5. (Currently amended) Multicoupling device according to Claim 1, wherein ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ the operating elements (10) are placed on two ends of the shaft (18) or on the two shaft stumps.

6. (Currently amended) Multicoupling device according to Claim 5, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the operating elements (10) placed on the two ends of the shaft (18) or in the region of the two shaft stumps each have an activation lever (21), whose free ends are connected to each other via a handle.

7. (Currently amended) Multicoupling device according to Claim 1, wherein ~~one of Claims 1 to 3, characterized in that~~ the operating elements (10) include engagement slots (13) and are arranged on two ends of the ~~continuous~~ shaft (18), ~~wherein~~ and an activation lever (21) is formed on only one operating element (10) arranged on one side.

8. (Currently amended) Multicoupling device according to Claim 1, wherein ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ the switch plate (11) is spring-loaded in a direction towards the open position of the coupling units (1-4) and/or the locking collars (9) are spring-loaded in a direction of their locked position.

9. (Currently amended) Multicoupling device according to Claim 1, wherein ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ the operating element (10) is formed by at least one switch connecting link arranged between the coupling units (1-4).

10. (Currently amended) Multicoupling device according to Claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the switch connecting link provided in an inner region between the coupling parts (7, 8) is formed by the operating element held on the shaft (18) and a pin held on the ~~[[other]]~~ first coupling part (7).

11. (Currently amended) Multicoupling device according to Claim 3, wherein ~~Claims 1, 2, 9, and 10, characterized in that~~ the operating element (10) lies in a slot of the guide tube (16) and is rotationally fixed to the shaft (18) ~~[[and]]~~ a the pin (14) interacting with the operating element (10) is inserted into a slot of ~~[[the]]~~ a guide pin (17).

12. (Currently amended) Multicoupling device according to Claim 1, wherein ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ bearing sleeves (22) for the shaft (18) or the shaft stumps are provided on two opposing edges of the switch plate (11), ~~wherein~~ the bearing sleeves (22) project past ~~[[the]]~~ edges of the switch plate (11)

and engage in elongated holes (19) in ~~[[the]]~~ wall parts (20) of ~~[[one]]~~ the second coupling part (8) and thus are guided so that they can move in the holes perpendicular to the axis (12).

13. (Currently amended) Multicoupling device according to Claim 2, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the additional locking elements (15) are embodied as spring-loaded latching, automatically locking clips, pins, or bars, ~~or the like~~.

14. (Currently amended) Multicoupling device according to Claim 13, characterized in that the clips, pins or, bars, ~~or the like~~ can be brought into a released position by hand.

15. (Currently amended) Multicoupling device according to Claim 2, wherein ~~Claim 14, characterized in that~~ the locking element (15) is provided in the form of a spring-loaded pin and is allocated to the activation lever (21) and latches behind a catch ramp for a closed coupling device, and the spring-loaded pin can be disengaged by a push-button formed on a free end of the activation lever (21).

16. (Currently amended) Multicoupling device according to Claim 1, wherein ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ handles (24) for lifting and for transport

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Application No.: Not Yet Known

are arranged on at least one of the coupling parts (7, 8) on two opposite sides
~~boundaries~~.